

## Topical Study

***Q1: Who in the bible were recorded that you know that did not experience physical/mortal death and were taken directly or translated to Heaven? (Hint:2 people). And what were attributed to them and what can we learn from that for our Christian journey?***

Genesis 5:21-24. Hebrews 11:5-6 - Enoch

2 Kings 2:1-2, 10-11 – Elijah

**Q2: Read Genesis 26:12-14. It is about Isaac. What do you think was the prerequisite to these blessings reading from Genesis 26:1-6? What does that tell us?**

**Parallel to that, let's read Genesis 22:1-12 and discuss what you can also learn from this in relation to Genesis 26?**

***Q3: Read Matthew 5:38–39. What did Jesus mean when He instructed us to turn the other cheek? For real, Is this possible with Christians? Discuss.***

**In Matthew 5:38–39**, Jesus says, “You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’ But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. **If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.**”

**The concept of “turning the other cheek” is a difficult one for us to grasp. Allowing a second slap after being slapped once does not come naturally.**

In the section of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount in which He commands us to turn the other cheek, He addresses the need for true transformation, versus mere rule-keeping.

A word about the “slap” that Jesus says we should endure. Jesus here speaks of personal slights of any kind. The slap (or the “smiting,” as the KJV has it) does not have to involve literal, physical violence. Even in our day, a “slap in the face” is a metaphor for an unexpected insult or offense. Did someone insult you? Let him, Jesus says. Are you shocked and offended? Don’t be. And don’t return insult for insult. Turn the other cheek.

Turning the other cheek does not imply pacifism, nor does it mean we place ourselves or others in danger. Jesus’ command to **turn the other cheek is simply a command to forgive personal offenses.**

Retaliation is what most people expect and how worldly people act. Turning the other cheek requires help from on high. Responding to hatred with love and ignoring personal slights display the supernatural power of the indwelling Holy Spirit and may afford the chance to share the gospel.

Jesus was, of course, the perfect example of turning the other cheek because He was silent before His accusers and did not call down revenge from heaven on those who crucified Him. Instead, He prayed, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34).

